

Revised

AGN. NO. S-1

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS / ZEV YAROV June 10, 2014  
MOVING FORWARD WITH THE BLUE RIBBON COMMISSION'S SYSTEM REFORM  
RECOMMENDATIONS TO PROTECT THE COUNTY'S MOST VULNERABLE  
CHILDREN

On June 25, 2013, the Board of Supervisors (Board) passed a motion that created the Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection (Commission) to review and make recommendations on various systemic issues surrounding child protection in Los Angeles County (County). Subsequently, the Board appointed an experienced and committed group of professionals to serve on the Commission.

On December 30, 2013 the Commission issued its 10 preliminary recommendations in the area of law enforcement, health, and implementation of previous recommendations made to the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS). Subsequently, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) was directed by the Board to provide a feasibility analysis report on the preliminary recommendations. This report was issued by the CEO on April 18, 2014 and the majority of the recommendations

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MOTION

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were deemed feasible for implementation.


The Commission released its final report on April 18, 2014 that set forth detailed and comprehensive recommendations to reform the County's child welfare system. The Commission presented a blueprint for an immediate system-wide transformation that includes a plan for prevention, collaboration, integration, measurement, oversight, and accountability as a path forward to achieve a reformed child welfare system.

The Commission having fulfilled its mission, the Board now must fulfill its duty to protect the children under its care and supervision by moving forward with system-wide reform to improve the County's child welfare system.

**I THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

1. Adopt the recommendations in the final report of the Blue Ribbon Commission for Child Protection, using the June 10, 2014 Chief Executive Officer's memo as a resource;
2. Establish an Office of Child Protection (OCP) as a separate entity that reports directly to the Board of Supervisors. The OCP will be housed within the Board of Supervisors Executive Office;
3. Establish a Transition Team who will provide formal advice to the Board regarding recommendations for child safety, until the new Office of Child Protection is created to act as a unified coordinating entity.

4. The Transition Team should be comprised of 11 members, supported by a County Counsel with subject matter expertise:
  - a. Five (5) members chosen by the Board of Supervisors,
  - b. Three (3) representatives from the Blue Ribbon Commission for Child Protection;
  - c. A representative from Juvenile Court;
  - d. A representative from the Chief Executive Office; and
  - e. A representative from the Children's Commission.
5. The Board of Supervisors will immediately undertake an executive search for the Director of the OCP. The Transition Team should work with the Board of Supervisors to provide input as to job description, desired qualities and experience for the Director of OCP. The Board of Supervisors will interview candidates and select the Director of OCP;
6. The Transition Team be requested to make recommendations to the Board as to the size and scope of the OCP, with the final determination to be made by the Board of Supervisors.
7. The Transition Team shall meet at least monthly, starting by July 1, 2014, and prioritize implementation of the Blue Ribbon Commission recommendations;

 The Transition Team and OCP shall prioritize implementing a phased in countywide initiative for infants to:

*shall assess the existing hub and public health nurse program;*

- i. evaluate every child under age one who is temporarily detained at a medical hub; and
    - ii. have a public health nurse accompany a social worker when investigating a child abuse and neglect referral for every child under age one;
  - b. The Transition Team, then OCP shall report back to the Board each month, beginning August 5, 2014, on the status of implementing recommendations and request that the Chair of the Board place this matter as a set item on the regular agenda; and
8. Prior to implementation of any of the Blue Ribbon Commission recommendations, the Chief Executive Office will work with all relevant County departments, the Transition Team and/or the OCP to determine cost of implementation and identify a source of funding for Board of Supervisors approval and execution. The Chief Executive Office and relevant Departments are also to identify savings within their departments that could offset any of these costs.

(BR/YV)

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